

**Defense Visual Information Trip Report –**  
**Joint Combat Camera (COMCAM) Planning Group (JCCPG) Meeting**

1. DATE(S) OF TRAVEL: 11-12 Jan 2011
2. PLACE VISITED (ORGANIZATION, LOCATION): Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, VA
3. DVI TRAVELERS: COL Mearen Bethea, USA, Director, Defense Visual Information, Ms. Barbara Burfeind, DVI Chief of VI Plans and Integration, LCDR Douglas Houser, Chief, JOINT Combat Camera Program, and LT Renee Soltes, Director Information and Operations Coordination center and Officer in Charge.
4. PURPOSE OF TRIP: The JCCPG, hosted twice each year by DVI and DIMOC, provides a forum for key COMCAM leaders and force providers from Service components, combatant commands and COMCAM units to discuss, explore, develop, propose, and provide COMCAM and VI recommendations to the DMA, and the ASD (PA). Issues included improving COMCAM exercise, contingency, deliberate and crisis-action planning support, and procedural and technical interoperability standards for COMCAM Forces, equipment, and systems.

During the meeting the DIMOC Imagery Operations and Coordination Center was briefed, with particular attention given to the COCOM Liaison (LNO) initiative. The JCCPG meeting proved to be an ideal venue for the participants to gain a clearer understanding of the Visual Information Planner/COCOM LNO initiative and the importance of this relationship when synchronizing and integrating the various DoD Visual Information capabilities during worldwide Joint operations and exercises. The presence of four COCOM VI planners was a key factor in the success of the JCCPG. Their active participation greatly enhances the value of the JCCPG meetings.

Each Service was well represented. Joint Service attendance and participation throughout the event is absolutely critical to the valuable exchange of information. Service involvement increased the effectiveness and ensured maximum benefit to those attending, contributing immensely to the overall success of the meeting.

The meeting was hosted by LCDR Herbert Josey, Officer in Charge (OIC), Expeditionary Combat Camera, LT Lydia Bock also from Expeditionary Combat Camera, and LT Chris Saunders, VI/COMCAM Officer from Fleet Forces Command.

Following the JCCPG, the DVI/DIMOC team made an additional visit to the Navy Public Affairs Support Element (NPASE), commanded by CDR Scott Norr. During an exchange of information, CDR Norr offered NPASE as a training resource for DIMOC personnel to attend their two-week training program. The training would be low cost, a motivation tool, and allow for personnel to stay current in the career field. A long-range schedule was shared and DIMOC intends to pursue the offer further.

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**5. KEY ATTENDEES:**

- See attached attendee list and agenda

6. DISCUSSION: Thirty-three attendees participated. Discussions included current and future global force management of the COMCAM and VI forces, doctrine, and service responsibilities. Communication (especially between VI/COMCAM planners and the COCOM IO, PA, SC Director, and J6 offices), imagery transmission, and challenges in supporting Special Operations Forces (SOF) missions were also discussed. JFCOM representative, Mr. Judge Graham input was very helpful and provided insight for all present. DINFOS representative, SFC Dimock provided information regarding DINFOS training and policies delineating modifying or including specific training into the curriculum. Submission of lessons learned into The Joint Universal Lessons Learned System (JULLS) data base and the sharing of lessons learned internally through the COMCAM community was also a significant talking point. Numerous recommendations and tasks were identified and from which several will become future action items for the group.

**7. OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

7.1 JOINT TACTICS TRAINING: AF previously requested a Working Group be established by the DVI Steering Committee (DVISC) to review current policy on training requirements for COMCAM forces to effectively support joint taskers through all phases of military engagements and establish training as a functional requirement to meet current and future mission requirements.

7.1.1 RECOMMENDATION(S): Service and Component Headquarters have the responsibility to man, train and equip. Detailed Component HQ COMCAM responsibilities are delineated in the COMCAM Multi-Service Tactics Techniques & Procedures (MTTP) and each Service should tailor a training regimen to meet Service-specific needs and where possible take advantage of Joint exercises to groom skills for operating in a Joint environment. Additionally, the recently revised 5040.2 instruction provides adequate justification and can be referenced for programming funding. DVI Joint COMCAM Program Manager will closely monitor and assist or coordinate as required.

7.2 COMCAM MULTI-SERVICE TACTICS TECHNIQUES & PROCEDURES: The Multi-service Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (MTTP) for Joint COMCAM Operations manual is currently under review at Air, Land, Sea Application Center (ALSA). Two objectives of the review is to examine incorporating training requirements into MTTP, and outline the requirement for advanced tactical training to support joint tasking requests.

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7.2.1 RECOMMENDATION(S): Gather input from Service-specific SME's and gear content towards specific units and mission sets, enabling support of all military units ranging from special operations to conventional forces. The goal is to maintain a constant state of readiness that will allow for independent support to the requesting unit in a variety of situations from combat actions outside-of-the-wire to humanitarian efforts during a crisis without jeopardizing the members and mission of the requesting unit.

7.3 COMCAM LESSONS LEARNED: COMCAM deployment lessons learned and best practices are not properly captured or submitted into Joint Universal Lessons Learned System (JULLS) or shared with the COMCAM/VI community. This issue was brought to light as well as stressing the importance of communicating this mission critical information. During discussions on the subject it was discovered that not all Lesson's Learned make it into JULLS, for one reason or another.

7.3.1 RECOMMENDATION: Continue efforts to properly capture Lessons Learned and best practices and push through the chain of command for submission into JULLS. Ultimately it is at leadership's discretion regarding what is submitted by the command/supported unit. However, there's nothing that precludes the sharing of Lessons Learned and best practices internally through the Joint COMCAM/VI community. The desired end state is to improve submission of Lesson learned and best practices while improving and expanding communication/interaction efforts across the services and COMCAM community as a whole.

7.4 INFORMATION SHARING: The JCCPG provided a networking opportunity and most importantly, a regular venue to share information between the COMCAM/VI community. Internal communication was a key theme during the meeting, emphasizing the need to talk, coordinate, and share information with one another, especially on shared issues and concerns.

7.4.1 RECOMMENDATION: Share the following information with participants and the VI community, asking for continued feedback:

NORTHCOM COMCAM CONOPS (as a template for other VI Planners to develop their own CONOPS for their COCOMS)

MTTP Initial Outline for input and info on the MTTP Joint Working Group in February RFF Template

7.4 JCCPG Critique SUMMARY: Overall the feedback was positive, with several suggestions and recommendations that can be incorporated into future JCCPG meetings. Of the 33 attendees, 19 provided feedback. The score average (on a 1-5 scale, with 5 being the highest) ranged from 4.15 to 4.7. Participants stated that the JCCPG "fostered a greater understanding of big picture COMCAM concerns and unit level issues." Comments noted the meeting provided a networking

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and information sharing opportunity for the group. A theme of better communication and building relationships were highlighted throughout the presentations. One participant pointed out that “relationships are vital to mission accomplishment and they are also vital to our joint COMCAM community.”

*--SIGNED--*

Mearen Bethea

Colonel, USA

Director, Defense Visual Information Directorate

Defense Media Activity

Attachments:

Agenda

Attendee list

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Time	Title	Briefer
	<b><i>Tuesday January 11</i></b>	
<b>0800-0815</b>	Welcome to Expeditionary Combat Camera, Norfolk, Virginia	LCDR Josey
<b>0815-0900</b>	DVI Update	COL Bethea
<b>0900-0915</b>	<b><i>Break</i></b>	
<b>0915-1000</b>	Update of topics from previous JCCPG Status of Joint VI CONOPS/DOD VI 5040.02/MTTP	LCDR Houser
<b>1000-1045</b>	DIMOC Operations	LT Soltes
<b>1045-1100</b>	<b><i>Break</i></b>	
<b>1100 1145</b>	Joint COMCAM Training Policy supporting Joint Tasking	LCDR Houser
<b>1145-1245</b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	
<b>1245-1315</b>	Army	MAJ Shelbert
<b>1315-1330</b>	Guest Speaker Topic: COMCAM Support to SPEC OPS in AFG	SFC Kim
<b>1330-1415</b>	SOUTHCOM	Major Donahue
<b>1415-1430</b>	<b><i>Break</i></b>	
<b>1430-1515</b>	CENTCOM OIF/OEF	MCC West
<b>1515-1700</b>	<b><i>OPEN DISCUSSION</i></b> - Verification of current COCOM requirements. What's the process? - How has the COMCAM mission evolved? - Projected COCOM requirements. - Joint Training opportunities. - Development of COMCAM Smart Book.	Facilitated by LCDR Houser
	<b><i>Wednesday January 12, 2011</i></b>	
<b>0745</b>	Group Photo	LCDR Josey
<b>0800-0845</b>	GFM JFCOM	Mr Graham
<b>0845-0930</b>	PACOM/COMPACFLT	LT Correa
<b>0930-0945</b>	<b><i>Break</i></b>	
<b>0945-1030</b>	JPASE	MSgt Swart
<b>1030-1115</b>	<b><i>Lunch</i></b>	
<b>1115-1215</b>	Navy CCGPAC/NECC	LCDR Josey/LT Wolfkiel
<b>1215-1300</b>	Marines	MAJ Thompson
<b>1300-1345</b>	Air Force	Mr Phelps
<b>1345-1400</b>	<b><i>Break</i></b>	
<b>1400-1530</b>	<b><i>OPEN DISCUSSION</i></b> Lessons Learned from - Pakistan Floods - Haiti - Iraq Drawdown - Afghanistan (to include server update) - Korea	Facilitated by LCDR Houser
<b>1530-1545</b>	<b><i>Wrap Up</i></b>	

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mearen Bethea	COL	DVI	Alexandria, VA
Douglas Houser	LCDR	DVI	Alexandria, VA
Renee Soltes	LT	DIMOC	Pentagon
Barbara Burfeind	CIV	DVI	Alexandria, VA
Marcos Coriano	SMSGT	AFPAA	San Antonio, TX
Brad Gildea	CIV	AFPAA	San Antonio, TX
Jamie Chapman	SMSGT	AFPAA	San Antonio, TX
Tom Cowan	CIV	2nd CTCS	Hill AFB, UT
Bruce Bender	LTC	4th CTCS	March AFB, CA
Randy Phelps	CIV	SAF/PAR	Pentagon
Keith A.Stevensen	CPT	MARFORRES COMCAM	New Orleans, LA
Brian Thompson	MAJ	USMC COMCAM	Quantico, VA
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Jerry Gutierrez	MSGT	USMC COMCAM	Quantico, VA
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Todd Dimock	SFC	DINFOS	FT Meade, MD

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